The Torch

Published by the Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho

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CELEBRATE 35th ANNIVERSARY

A Note to All Phi Lambda Alumni

To all alumni:

On June 21, 1917, twenty-eight members of the Pioneer Club were initiated into the National Fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho.

The undergraduate chapter has extended an invitation to all the Alumni to come to the Chapter House on Friday and Saturday, May 23rd-24th, to celebrate with them the 35th anniversary of that occasion.

I know that if it is at all possible, you will accept the invitation and enjoy once again the fellowship of the Fraternity.

In addition to the commemoration of that event, the Alumni will mark this anniversary by launching a program destined to create closer relationships between them and the undergrduates, and in its development, effectually bring about a fuller expression of the ideals of the fraternity among the Alumni who return for the anniversary celebration.

And this is the way it should be. To all the alumni of Phi Lambda and especially the class of 1952, who will soon join ranks with us, it should be the commencement of many happy years of enduring friendships and the beginning of an individual opportunity to share in the moulding of that kind of a real fraternity in every sense of the word that each of us want at State College.

A return postal card is enclosed for your convenience.

John R. Hunter, President
Phi Lambda Graduate Chapter

House Officers Elected

President .... William H. Hogg, Jr.
V. President .. Timothy P. Gorant
Ritual Officer .... Donald L. Felker
Secretary ..... Warren E. Dodge
Treasurer ..... Joseph E. Rostich
Chaplain ..... Albert S. Howe
Chapter Corres.
Alfred O. Wittenmaier

June Graduates

GEORGE DAVIS, who will graduate this June with a B. S. in Industrial Engineering, plans to return to State next year and work for his Master's degree. A graduate of Central High School in Scranton, George spent his freshman year at Keystone Junior College. In addition to being Scholarship Chairman at Phi Lambda, he also is a member of Sigma Tau, Aupha Pi Mu, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, serves as Vice-Chairman of the American Foundreymen's Society, and is on the staff of the Penn State Engineer. George plans to work this summer in th Industrial Engineering department of the Hamilton Standard Division in Hartford, Connecticut. In his spare time George is an ardent hunter and fisherman.

HENRY A. GRACEY will graduate as a Geography major, allied with Spanish and economics. Hank's home is in Media, and he spent his freshman year at the Penn State Center at Swarthmore. Hank Pledged Phi Lambda in the

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Phi Lambda Chapter To Hold Special Week-end Party

This year will mark the 35th Anniversary of the founding of our Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho. The occasion of this celebration, a "kick-off" party to be given over the weekend of May 23-24, will welcome alumni from throughout the United States.

As the first celebration of note in many years, other than the yearly get-together at "Homecoming" every October, this 35th Anniversary convention will establish an active, more-closely-knit alumni association, which will meet annually in these chapter halls. Present at this first "gathering of the clan" will be Dr. and Mrs. Milton Eisenhower. Other guests in addition to President Eisenhower and his wife will be Harold K. Wilson, Dean of Men, and Harold W. Perkins, assistant Dean of Men. Dean Wilson will address the convention during the Saturday session.

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HOUSE OFFICERS: Clockwise from left—Bill Hogg, President; Tim Gorant, Vice President; Warren Dodge, Secretary; Joe Rostich, Treasurer; Al Howe, Chaplain; Don Felker, Ritual Officer.

The Torch

PHI LAMBDA CHAPTER
OF
ALPHA CHI RHO

Editor: Richard L. Martz, '53
Co-editors: Warren E. Dodge, '53, Day Editor; Joseph Varholy, '54 Night Editor
Photographer: Temple Reynolds

Alumni Will Note House Improvement

Alumni who visit Phi Lambda will be surprised to find "there's been some changes made." As reported in our monthly "Torch," the Phi Lambda council room-recreation room has been redecorated. Complete with rich, natural pine paneling, wall benches upholstered in red plastic padding, indirect flourescent lighting, and a celotex composition ceiling, covered with swirled ivory plaster, this "pit" is the only modernized room in our old English homestead.

To make way for this interior renovation, which cost over $300, all space-consuming over-stuffed chairs were removed; thus increasing the seating capacity to nearly 50 people for major parties and meetings. The unsightly heat and water pipes were enclosed with vents for heat during the winter, and a fan was installed for proper ventilation during the warmer months. With salmon colored walls, sturdy paneling, and the general grace of modernization, our "pit" stands out as the major project of the year. The Pledges, whose plaque of perform is inset in one of the walls proclaiming their handiwork, are duly proud.

A second project which is near completion is the redecoration of the second and third floor lavatories. At present undergoing extensive repair, these rooms are to have tiled floors, new shower stalls, sinks, copper plumbing, and fixtures.

Suggested for the future is the repair of the kitchen, the painting of hall walls, and the outside painting of windows and other frame structures. To those of you alumni who visit us over the weekend of our 35th anniversary, we hope to show you a revitalized Phi Lambda.

June Graduates

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fall of 1949. On campus he is active in the Pershing Rifles and the Penn State Geographical Society. Upon graduation Hank will become Second Lieutenant Gracey of the U. S. Air Force, where he expects to serve at least two years.

THOMAS A. HANNA will graduate as a major in Transportation in the field of Commerce and Finance in August. Better known around State as "Buddy," Tom has served as President of the Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho and has been very active in campus affairs. He has served on the Interfraternity Council and the I.F.C. Board of Control; he was on the Executive Committee of the Junior Class as well as a member the Social Committee of the same organization; he was a member of the Penn State Thespians and the Penn State Glee Club. Head cheerleader last year, Buddy is a member of Delta Nu Alpha, the Transportation honorary fraternity, the Valley Chapter Order of DeMolay, and is enrolled in Advanced ROTC. After graduation, Buddy says he plans to spend a couple of years as a Reserve Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, after which he would like to do personnel work in the transportation field.

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON, also known as "Walkin' Willie," is an eighth semester Geography major who plans to graduate in August 1952. Baltimore, Maryland is Bill's home and he attended the Penn State Center at Swarthmore during his freshman year. He pledged Alpha Chi Rho in September, 1949. His main campus activities center around Pershing Rifles, the honorary military fraternity, and Bill's main interests lie in the military. He was selected as a Distinguished Military Student during his junior year and he plans to accept a Regular Army Commission in the Signal Corps in September.

DONALD F. KURTZ, Jr., the capable and hard working House Manager at Phi Lambda, is known by many names, "Twigs" and "Steve" being the most popular. Don's father, Donald F. Kurtz, Sr. is an alumnus of Phi Lambda and graduated from Penn State in 1921 with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Don has majored in Vegetable Horticulture, and is also a member of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and the Penn State Horticulture Club. He was active in the Interfraternity Council Workshop and in Greek Week. Don's favorite pastimes are trout fishing and baseball. His home is in Lansdowne and he says his plans for the future are "?".

RONALD GLENN OSCHMANN, a June graduate in Electrical Engineering, is from Scranton where he graduated from Central High School in 1948. Ron's freshman year was spent at Keystone Junior College. His major hobby for the past five or six years has been radio and television experimentation, and he has just recently finished constructing a 14-inch television receiver. Ron was employed at the local State College and Bellefonte radio station, WMAJ, and holds a 1st class Radiotelephone license. Ron is responsible for the installation of the television set here in Phi Lambda in the fall of 1950, and so earned the nickname of "TeeVee." After graduation Ron has tentatively accepted a position with the Daystrom Instrument Division of American Type Founders, Inc. as a test and design engineer of electronic equipment, and will probably reside with his parents in Scranton.

CHRISTOPHER N. TONERY, an eighth semester Physical Education major, hails from Manchester, New Hampshire. After his discharge from the U. S. Navy he entered Penn State. At State Chris' main interest is on the baseball diamond, where he has played three years of varsity ball for the Nittany Lions. After graduation in June, Chris plans to move to Nova Scotia, where he will become Physical Education Director of Kentville High School. During the summer months Chris will again be player-manager for the Kentville professional baseball club.

Sports Note

A "Crow" hit the sports headlines recently when Chris Tonery, left fielder for the Penn State Nittany Lions, hit a grand slam homerun against West Virginia in the second game of a twin bill to break up a tight pitching duel between Vesling of State and Creegan of West Virginia. The score was tied 2-2 in the last of the sixth inning with two men out, when Tonery delivered his base clearing blow. Chris was named "Athlete of the Week" on the Penn State campus after his achievement in Saturday's game.

Phi Lambda Pledges

PLEDGES: Standing (l. to r.) Chuck Caricato, Bob Axtell, Joe Varholy, Jim Arnold, Dwight Tothero, Newk Grubb, Chuck Emig, Temp Reynolds. In Front—Bill Alich, Norm Brown.

WILLIAM ALICH, class of June, '54 intends to become a psychiatrist after finishing medical school, which he plans to enter after graduation. Bill has been an active member of Pershing Rifles for the past two years and was a member of the wrestling squad this year. His home is in Nazareth. Bill is known by the nickname "Fearless Fosdick."

JAMES M. ARNOLD, a fourth semester Aeronautical Engineering major, plans to graduate in June 1954. He came to Penn State in the fall of 1950 as a freshman and pledged Alpha Chi Rho during his second semester. Jim, whose home is in Oakmont, is now a manager of the golf team and hopes to be a member of the team next year. His uncle, George Steubgen, attended Penn State for two years from 1928 to 1930. Jim's main interest includes golf, tennis, and model airplane building.

ROBERT M. AXTELL, a fourth semester Civil Engineering major from Susquehanna, expects to graduate in '54 and then go into construction work. He is a member of the varsity lacrosse team. Bob is known by two nicknames, "Blackie" and "Lush." During the summer he works as a union bricklayer.

NORMAN E. BROWN, comes from Montrose and is a fourth semester Agriculture student majoring in Dairy Husbandry. "Brownie" was second assistant of Penn State's basketball team last eason, and was elected first assitant manager for next year. Norm would like to get a position in the Dairy industry after graduation.

CHARLES CARICATO, a junior in his sixth semester at Penn State, is majoring in Labor Management Relations, but his main interest is in dramatics. Chuck has appeared in the Penn State Talent Show as well as participating in extra-curricular dramatic productions. Chuck's home is in Monessen, and if by chance he should have to enter the service before graduation, he says he intends to return to school after being discharged.

CHARLES WENDEL EMIG, a nineteen-year-old sophomore in Forestry, plans to graduate in June 1954. An active member of the Penn State Forestry Society, Chuck likes to hunt, fish, play basketball and baseball, and listen to soothing symphonies. Living in Camp Hill, Chuck is minoring in Geology and Surveying. Following graduation, he will serve in the Army Air Forces, after which he plans to take up photogrammetrical forestry.

WILMER NEWLIN GRUBB, better known as "Newk," is a major in insurance in the Commerce and Finance curriculum. He comes from Aldan, in Delaware County, and his father, Newlin W. Grubb was a graduate of Phi Lambda in 1920. His uncle, Roland S. Grubb is another "Crow" and graduated from Penn State in 1922. Newk is interested in almost all sports, and is particularly partial to fishing. He was second assistant manager of the State basketball team last season and is currently on the Nittany Lions baseball squad.

TEMPLE REYNOLDS, a fourth semester Forester, is from Oil City, and, besides being the photographer for the forestry yearbook, he is also a member of the Penn State Forestry Society and a delegate to the Agriculture Student's Council. His main interests are hunting, fishing, and photography. After graduation "Temp" intends to continue for a aMster's degree in Wildlife and then go into conservation work.

DWIGHT TOTHERO, from Harrisburg, is a fourth semester Mechanical Engineering student and spent his first year of college at the Penn State Harrisburg Center. He came to Penn State in the fall of 1951 and pledged Phi Lambda soon after, although he was not able to move out of the dormitories and into the house until the beginning of the spring semester. Dwight's main interests are photography and automobiles, and he also plays cello in the College Orchestra. He hopes to eventually get into the field of automotive engineering.

JOSEPH ROBERT VARHOLY, who says he has been interested in radio and television for the greater part of his nineteen years, is, oddly enough, enrolled in Arts and Letters in the school of Liberal Arts. Joe came to Penn State from Lebanon via the Center at Harrisburg, and after graduation, intends to enroll in a technical school to acquire a technical background so he can enter the field of radio and television, which he hopes to make his career. Joe has somehow acquired the nickname "Jolly Olly" and is noted most for his inimitable soft-shoe dance routine.

Recreation "Twins" Continue Growth

News on the home front finds Phi Lambda's recreation twins, John and Jim Dittmar, carrying out fine careers for the future. John, who graduated in June 1950 and is now presently Recreational Director of State Colelge, plans to marry in August, and in February will go with his wife, the former Betty Jane Strom, to Washington, D. C., to work for the State Department. Active as Recreational Directoe for State College and its public schools for nearly two years, John will re-

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Mother's Day Fete Is Annual Affair

Initiated last year with great success, the Phi Lambda Mother's Day program is now an annual affair. This year, over May 10 and 11, the "Crows" are again inviting their parents to visit the fraternity. In addition to serving as a time for the parents to see the fraternity and college in operation, this weekend get-together will permit our fathers and mothers to meet and talk with one another.

Although no time has been set for the parents' arrival, the festivities will officially open at noon Saturday with an informal lunch. For those who are interested, the Engineering Open House will begin at 2 p.m., at which time official tours will show many exhibits and displays. At 4 p.m. the traditional Maypole ceremonies with the crowning of the May Queen and selection of her court will take place. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Phi Lambda will precede an informal meeting of parents and house mmbers.

On Saturday evening, many social events will be available, including movies, a stage production at Schwab auditorium, or just the informal continuation of the afternoon's sessions.

Sunday church services will take place during the morning hours, dinner will be served at 12:30 p.m. in the chapter dining room, and Sunday afternoon tours will complete the weekend.

Monthly Torch Will Continue

From the response we received from many of you Brothers following the mailing of our new monthly "Torch," we are happy to say that these periodical newsletters will continue to be sent. It is our plan to give you pertinent information concerning this chapter's functions, plans, and social events.

We wish to apologize to those of you who did not receive a copy which was prepared and mailed on April 1. Because alumni correspondence has not always been up-to-date, and because changes in address have not always been filed with Phi Lambdafi our card file is not complete.

We regret, too, that a printing error caused the omission of material on both right and left margins. This condition, however, will be rectified in future monthly papers.

Coming Events

Sat., May 3—
- Track (Michigan State)
- Tennis (Georgetown)
- Third Annual Horse Show

Sat., May 10—
- Players' Show (Schwab)
- Lacrosse (Rutgers)
- May Day Ceremonies

Sun., May 11—
- MOTHER'S DAY (PHI LAMBDA)
- Glee Club Concert (Schwab)

Fri., May 16—
- Senior Ball (Rec Hall) Ray McKinley

Sat., May 17—
- Track (Pitt)
- Lacrosse (Cornell)
- JIMMY SPANIEL'S ORCHESTRA (PHI LAMBDA)

Sun., May 18—
- Symphony Concert (Schwab)

Friday eve, May 23rd—

Sat., May 24—
- PHI LAMBDA 35th ANNIVERSARY
- Baseball (Colgate)
- Tennis (Colgate)
- PIAA Golf

Sun., May 25—
- Blue Band Concert (Schwab)

Sun., June 8—
- Baccalaureate & Class Day

Mon., June 9—
- Commencement Day

Scholastic Report Shows Improvement

Recent results of our scholarship record show a gigantic improvement. Out of the 52 fraternities at Penn State, the Dean's list rates Phi Lambda's fall semester 1.51 (approximately 75%) average in 10th place. Having previously held 25th place with a 1.35 average, the "Crows" nearly won the trophy given to the fraternity showing the most marked improvement.

Within the house, the seniors rated 6th, the juniors, 10th, while the sophomores scored 38th. Last year's seniors ranked a low 26th, the juniors, 18th, and the sophomores, again 38th. It seems evident, despite the fact that the sophomores of both this and last year scored a low 38th rating, that the scholarship program of Phi Lambda, though a long-ranged plan, is effecting better results.

While last year's "All-College" 1.48 average topped Phi Lambra's record, the "Crows" this year are well over the 1.35 drop reported throughout Penn Statae. In any event, it's something to crow about.

PHI LAMBDA CHAPTER TO HOLD SPECIAL WEEKEND PARTY

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In addition to these college officials, William Hogg, president of Phi Lambda, has invited Richard P. Connant, President of National Alpha Chi Rho, Wilbur "Curly" Walden, national secretary, and William W. Wahl, assistant national secretary, to attend.

The purpose of this 35th Anniversary, as outlined by John Hunter, president of Phi Lambda's Alumni Association, Roland S. Grubb, and Clyde Fowler during a recent visit, is the initiation of an active alumni association which will cement closer ties between graduates and house members. As part of this program to promote better relations, these representatives of the class of '22 plan to enlist the support of alumni in order to undertake the general improvement and advancement of Phi Lambda.

Throughout this news letter personal sketches are given of present house nembers, including the newly-elected officers, June graduates, and Pledges. We here at Phi Lambda hope that you, as Alumni, will definitely plan to visit us over the May 23-24 weekend, not only to renew old friendships, but also to meet the present class of "Crows."

Reservations by mail or phone will be promptly filled for you to make your stay both pleasurable and convenient. In order that we may plan for your coming, please notify us as soon as possible. Make it a date and let Phi Lambda "welcome you home!"

RECREATION "TWINS"

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ume his reireational duties overseas under the Truman "Point Four" program.

Jim, who graduated in February, 1951 and was married to the former Barbara Shetrone that same month, will report on May 1 to Williamsport to undertake the tasks of Resreational Director. Presently, Jim is the Director of Recreation in Kennett Square. Last September, th Dittmars were visited by the stork; Kathy Ann, aie 7 monhs, was the happy blessing.

Returning from the Marines in 1948, John and Jim were initiated into Phi Lambda on March 6, 1949.